

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DES POIDS ET MESURES

Director

Bureau International-des Poids et Mesures (BIPM)

The Comite International des Poids et Mesures (CIPM) invites applications for the post of Director of the BIPM. This post is due to fall vacant at the end of 2003 on the retirement of the present Director, Dr. T.J. Quinn. The successful candidate will be engaged initially as deputy Director (Director designate) and it is hoped that he or she will take up this post in 2001.

The BIPM is the scientific and administrative centre of the Intergovernmental Organization of the Metre Convention and operates under the supervision of the CIPM which itself is under the authority of the forty-eight Member States of the Convention. The BIPM's scientific and administrative work has as its aim the assurance of a stable and reliable worldwide measurement system based on the International System of Units (SI). To achieve this, the BIPM works in close collaboration with the national metrology institutes of the Member States.

The Director serves as the executive Director of activities under the Metre Convention and, in particular, is responsible to the CIPM for the running of the BIPM, which has an international staff of about seventy and an annual budget of some 60 M FRF (US\$ 10 M). He or she also carries a major responsibility for proposing and carrying through policy adopted by the CIPM on matters related to international metrology. The Director participates in all meetings of the CIPM and its ten Consultative Committees, and is chairman of the Joint Committee of the Regional Metrology Organizations and the BIPM. The Director is expected to maintain contact with the national metrology institutes of the Member States both directly and through the regional metrology organizations and also with relevant international organizations. The Director is encouraged to maintain his or her own research activity in the laboratories of the BIPM.

Candidates must be highly qualified and experienced scientists with a flair for administration and preferably should be prepared to serve as Director for a period of ten years or more. Some experience of international affairs will be an advantage. The successful candidate will be expected to have fluent English and a sufficient knowledge of French to become fluent in French conversation by the time he or she becomes Director.

The BIPM is located at the Pavillon de Breteuil, Sèvres, situated on the outskirts of Paris. The BIPM, its staff and its site are accorded by the French government the privileges and immunities normally accorded to international organizations under the Geneva Convention. The BIPM operates its own contributory pension scheme and subscribes to a private medical insurance for its staff and their families. The retirement age is 65. The salary of the Director is commensurate with the responsibilities and duties of the post. Living accommodation is provided at the Pavillon de Breteuil.

Applications should be addressed to the President of the CIPM, Professor J. Kovalevsky, at the BIPM and should include a curriculum vitae, a list of publications and the names of at least three referees who may be approached to give their comments on the candidate's suitability for the post. The latest date for receipt of applications is 15 April 2000 and the final decision will be taken by the CIPM in October 2000. Prospective candidates are encouraged to make preliminary contact, in confidence, with either the President of the CIPM or the Director of the BIPM. More information on the BIPM and its activities are to be found on the BIPM web page: <http://www.bipm-fr>.

Professeur Jean Kovalevsky
Président du CIPM

Dr T.J. Quinn
Director

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